

# Ring of Honor TV – February 21, 2018: Villains and Enforcers



IMG Credit: Ring of Honor

## Ring of Honor

Date: February 21, 2018

Location: Nashville Municipal Auditorium, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Colt Cabana

We're coming up on the 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show and the card is starting to come together. If nothing else there's a good reason to believe that Dalton Castle will be defending the World Title against Jay Lethal, but there's also the possibility of Matt Taven, as the Kingdom continues its rise. Let's get to it.

[Here's last week's show in case you need a recap.](#)

So Cal Uncensored is ready to make their mark by taking the Six Man tag Team Titles from the Bullet Club.

The Bullet Club says they'll defend the titles and get some revenge. Adam Page promises six broken legs and they sing a song about being drug free.

Opening sequence.

Jay Lethal vs. Flip Gordon

This could be interesting. Gordon flips out of a headlock but his Oklahoma roll is countered into a rollup as well. Jay tries a cutter but Gordon gets his hands up and keeps his head off the mat in a nice counter. Back from an early break with Gordon knocking him into the corner as the announcers compare Flip to a franchise quarterback. Some running corner dropkicks rock Jay again but the third one misses, allowing Jay to hit one of his own.

Lethal starts in on the back with some knee drops and a backbreaker for two each. The reverse chinlock with a knee to the back is broken up and Gordon throws him outside for a suicide dive. Jay isn't going to stand for this gimmick infringement and runs back in for a boot to the face. That sequence works so well that Gordon does the same thing to Jay, followed by a superkick from the apron. A middle rope corkscrew dive to the floor drops Jay again and we take another break.

Back again with the exchange of forearms and chops until Jay tries the Figure Four. That's not working just yet so Gordon has to block the Lethal Injection. Instead it's a springboard spinning Sling Blade to take Lethal down, followed by an enziguri for two. Lethal is sat on top but slips down for a powerbomb. That's blocked as well and now the Figure Four goes on, sending Gordon bailing to the ropes. Lethal is done with this though and hits a dragon suplex into the Lethal Injection for the pin at 15:13.

**Rating:** B-. Lethal is the kind of guy that every promotion needs: someone who can have a good match with anyone and make them look better than they are otherwise. Gordon is a little more than a one trick pony but he needs a big win to keep himself from slipping backwards into the midcard pretty soon.

Post match Colt tells Lethal that he's getting the World Title shot at the 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show. Marty Scurll storms out and says it should be his shot. Jay says he's earned this so Scurll says he should be #1 contender when Lethal wins the title. That's quite the retreat from a villain but Lethal agrees.

Brandi Rhodes knows she's the underdog in this tournament but that lets

her fly under the radar.

Karen Q says you should be focusing on her and no one else.

#### Women's Title Tournament First Round: Karen Q vs. Brandi Rhodes

Karen jumps Brandi during her posing but Rhodes is up with some knees to the face and a dropkick. Some choking in the corner cuts Brandi off and there's a running shot to the face as we take a break. Back with Karen scoring with a standing moonsault for two but missing something like a frog splash. Brandi chops away and even hits a Sling Blade (not the worst) for two. A middle rope dropkick misses though and Karen grabs a Boston crab. Back up and Brandi jumps over her in the corner but hurts her ankle. Now if you don't know what's coming, I don't know what to tell you. The small package sends Brandi on at 7:24.

**Rating:** D+. Brandi was passable here and that's all she needed to be. There's no secret to the fact that she's still very green but it's easy to see why Ring of Honor wants to push her. With the family collections and a million dollar smile, she's worth the effort to put some time in. That being said, this is as far as she should go in the tournament as you're only going to get so far with an offense mainly comprised of chops.

Dalton Castle wants to talk about beanbag chairs and baby bunnies but Scurll interrupts. Marty wants to be Dalton's next challenger if Castle retains against Cody. It's a deal.

#### Six Man Tag Team Titles: So Cal Uncensored vs. Young Bucks/Adam Page

The Bucks and Page are defending. Kazarian and Page slug it out to start but So Cal runs in, drops the Bucks, and stomps on Page in the corner. Of course the Bucks are right back in and hitting flashy double team offense, including a wheelbarrow facebuster into a cutter on Scorpio. Page hits a dropsault on Daniels and Kazarian so let's hit that T00 SWEET chant. Nick dives onto everyone and it's the triple suicide dives as the champs are in full control.

Back in and Page kicks Sky out of the air, followed by Kazarian

clotheslining Daniels by mistake. Daniels and Kazarian finally get in a few shots on Page to put him in trouble and take over. Kazarian chokes on the ropes and we take a break. Back with Page and Kazarian hitting a double clothesline for a double knockdown. Matt gets the hot tag but both Bucks come in because this might as well be their promotion.

A variety of kicks to the challengers' heads have the Bucks in control and a standing moonsault/top rope splash combination gets two on Daniels. Sky knocks them outside though and it's a dive to both Bucks. Page is right behind them though with a moonsault off the top onto the pile. Back in and Matt hurricanranas his way out of the Angel's Wings and we hit the Sharpshooter. Daniels taps but Kazarian has the referee. It's Sky coming in with a belt shot and Daniels gets the pin...but here's Bully Ray to interrupt the celebration.

Bully has been watching every show since Final Battle and there's a lack of honor around here as of late. COO Joe Koff has given him the authority (erg) to enforce the Code of Honor around here so let's restart this match. Triple superkicks and a Meltzer Driver retain the titles at 11:21 (not counting the break for Bully).

**Rating:** C+. The Bucks still aren't my cup of Yoo-Hoo and their near non-existent selling is beyond old. Still though, you can't deny their level of overness and staying power so this is about as much as you can ask for. Bully coming out for the restart feels like any given wrestling company and that's not what I want to see in Ring of Honor. Still though, you know what's what you're getting in wrestling so just live with it.

**Overall Rating:** C+. Totally watchable show here with Scurll looking like the smartest man in the room all night. Him getting the World Title shot at Supercard of Honor is pretty much the only way to go and that should be quite the entertaining night. Other than that the show was standard Ring of Honor, albeit with a good opening match.

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